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**RED BLUFF METHAMPHETAMINE DEALER SENTENCED TO 12 YEARS**

SACRAMENTO--United States Attorney McGregor W. Scott announced today that CARLOS SANCHEZ CENDEJAS, 26, of Red Bluff, California, was sentenced today by Chief United States District Judge David F. Levi to 12 years in federal prison followed by 5 years of federal supervised release. The defendant previously pleaded guilty to distributing methamphetamine in violation of federal law on May 11, 2006.

This case is the product of an extensive, joint investigation by the California Department of Justice, Bureau of Narcotic Enforcement (BNE), the California Multi-Jurisdictional Methamphetamine Enforcement (Cal-MMet), and the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA).

According to Assistant United States Attorney Jason Hitt, who prosecuted the case, CENDEJAS engaged in large-scale methamphetamine dealing in Red Bluff. CENDEJAS was arrested after conducting a series of drug deals in June of 2005 at the Lake Red Bluff Park in Red Bluff, California by a sophisticated narcotics team targeting methamphetamine dealers in the region.

In sentencing CENDEJAS to 12 years in federal prison, Chief Judge Levi said CENDEJAS had committed serious offenses by distributing harmful methamphetamine into the Red Bluff community.

United States Attorney Scott stated, "Local, state, and federal law enforcement will continue to vigorously target methamphetamine traffickers. This drug is too dangerous to do anything but."

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